

Media Contact:

Sarah Ardalani Public Information Officer 213-974-3525 <u>SArdalani@da.lacounty.gov</u>

Twitter: @LADAOffice

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Alhambra Man Sentenced for Assaulting Teenage Girls

A 31-year-old man was sentenced to 20 years in state prison last week after he was convicted of enticing teenage girls with job opportunities so that he could sexually assault them, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Deputy District Attorney Miriam Avalos said Milton Joel Melgar of Alhambra pleaded no contest Friday to two felony counts of assault with intent to commit a felony, one felony count of false imprisonment by violence and two misdemeanor counts of child molesting.

In addition to Melgar's prison sentence, Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Jack Hunt ordered the defendant to register as a sex offender for life.

The prosecutor said Melgar harassed and sexually assaulted five female teenagers between August 2012 and July 2013 in El Monte. The girls were 14 to 16 years old when the crimes occurred.

Initially, Melgar would grab at the victims from his car. When they screamed, he would let them go, the prosecutor said.

After some time, Melgar began to approach the teenagers in his car and lure them to his vehicle in promise of a job. Once inside, the girls were assaulted, the prosecutor added.

With his last victim, Melgar gave the teenager his contact information. She then notified police.

The defendant was immediately arrested and has remained in custody since his apprehension.

The case was investigated by the El Monte Police Department and Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office prosecuted more than 73,000 felony defendants and 113,000 misdemeanor defendants.